

opcBulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • APRIL 2002

OPC 63rd Awards Dinner: Marking a Momentous Year

by Sonya K. Fry

The excitement is building. All 448 entries in the awards process have been judged by more than 70 judges. Winners have been notified and the awards dinner is shaping up to be a very special event. It will be held, once again, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City on Thursday, April 25th. The reception will begin at 6pm followed by dinner and the awards ceremony. This year the evening will be dedicated to Danny Pearl of *The Wall Street Journal* who was kidnapped and ultimately killed in Pakistan.

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg will give the keynote address. He is well known in journalistic circles as the founder and CEO of Bloomberg L.P. Michael Bloomberg originally worked on Wall Street after graduating from Harvard Business School. He quickly advanced to become a partner at Salomon Brothers. When Salomon was bought out Bloomberg used his stake from the sale to start his own company which would revolutionize the way Wall Street does business. By the early 90's Bloomberg branched out into the media business launching a news service, then radio, television, internet and publishing. His media empire is global with bureau chiefs reporting on business news from virtually all the world's major capitals.

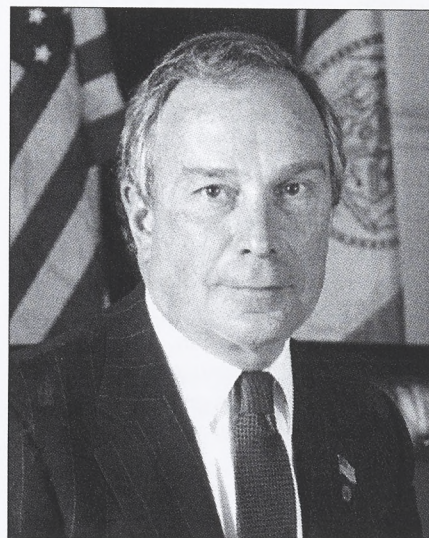
Aaron Brown of CNN will present the

awards. With more than 25 years of journalism experience he is CNN's lead anchor during breaking news and special events. He is also the anchor of *NewsNight* with Aaron Brown. On September 11th Brown covered the unparalleled event from a rooftop in New York City. Previously Aaron Brown was the anchor of ABC's *World News Tonight* Saturday. Hailing from Minnesota, he began his career as a radio talk show host in Minneapolis.

The New York Times will receive a special award for its incredible coverage in "The Nation Challenged" which was inaugurated on September 18 and continued until the last day of the year 2001.

CBS News will provide visual projection for each of the awards. At last year's dinner the photo group @21 projected the photography and cartoon awards. The granting of the awards was certainly enhanced by knowing what the winning entries looked like so we have planned to expand the visuals to include all awards.

The Artyom Borovik Award for out-



Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg

standing reportage by a Russian journalist is still in the judges' hands as of this writing. It was very difficult to find judges in Moscow who both read and speak Russian and who were not in Afghanistan. All the Moscow bureau correspondents were doing double duty this year covering Russia and the war in Afghanistan. As soon as we found a willing judge that person would be shipped off for an indefinite period of time. So judging is

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OPC Message to the Pentagon

In a letter to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and in Op-ed articles in major newspapers, the Overseas Press Club has protested the Administration's muzzling of journalists who are trying to cover the war in Afghanistan.

The protest originated at the February board meeting, when board member Peter Cullum suggested it was high time someone spoke up. A strong second came from Rick MacArthur, who wrote a book on coverage of the Gulf war and has written several articles recently on the same theme. President Larry Martz agreed to send a letter to Rumsfeld, and Cullum volunteered to draft it. Martz edited Cullum's draft, inserting

some thoughts from MacArthur, and sent it off.

Cullum then modified the letter to become the op-ed article excerpted on next page. After negotiations with editors at *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times* produced no commitment to run the piece, Cullum sent it off to the 100 largest papers in the country. At this writing, it has been run by *The Atlanta Journal Constitution* and *The Bergen Record*; was scheduled to run in *The Baltimore Sun* and the *Portland Oregonian*, and has drawn a spate of letters from readers, both pro and con.

Rumsfeld has yet to reply.

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Memo to Rumsfeld: Unleash the Media to Report the War

By Peter Cullum and Larry Martz

Ernie Pyle is missing in action. Or at least in this current crisis, and particularly in Operation Anaconda, his feel for the common soldier, his terse description of combat and his closeness to the action are lacking. What is missing from the War on Terrorism is genuine war reporting. And for the administration to win this war long term, this has to change.

The Bush people seem to recognize that the post 9/11 patriotic *carte blanche* on their conduct of the war is coming to an end. The recent abolition of the ill-considered Office of Strategic Influence, with its license to spread both information and disinformation, helped only a bit to bolster the Pentagon's credibility. What is needed is an expansion of coverage of the war itself by independent reporters.

Journalists should be closer to the troops in the field and, where possible, accompany them into battle. Paradoxically, this would reduce their casualties.

Thus far, 10 journalists have been killed in and around Afghanistan. Bandits murdered most of them while they were trying to get to the war zone. If accredited reporters and cameramen had closer access to our soldiers and marines, they would be far better protected than they are riding unescorted along lonely mountain roads. They would also be able to get

the story.

There is precedent for this. During World War Two, correspondents and photographers were given close access to the armed forces in non-combat situations and even in some battles and campaigns; their pictures and dispatches, cleared by censors, provided vivid coverage and were widely credited with fostering homeland support for the war. And the military itself actively sought press coverage. The Army sent *Stars and Stripes* reporters into combat. To report on its own battles, the U.S. Marine Corps recruited journalists and trained them as combat correspondents. These were marines, but they were also professional journalists. They were also censored, but they reported what they saw, not what policy dictated.

Promoting and then citing the legend that it was media reporting that "lost" the war in Vietnam, successive administrations have kept reporters and cameramen on ever-shorter leashes in each war that followed. In the Grenada operation, the media were simply left behind. In Panama, combat "pools" were formed, but then were confined to a military base until the fighting was mostly finished. In the Gulf war the pools were larger, but just as tightly controlled—and pictures of corpses and coffins were strictly banned.

The war in Afghanistan has been fought largely in secret, with the avuncular Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld maintaining a near-monopoly on information. At no point was this truer than during Operation Anaconda.

Both the flavor and substance of the war are absent from the current Pentagon-based daily press briefing. Moreover, it is antithetical to the very thing we are fighting for—our values—to have the war news filtered by the military establishment. Americans need to get their news and analysis unfettered by official bias. And even if the administration tries to be objective, under the current arrangement, bias exists and will continue.

In the long run, leashing the media doesn't even benefit the administration. Central control of the news is always counterproductive, because people rapidly learn to distrust it. For just one example, repeated denials that targets were mistakenly hit—or repeated claims that if they were, the action was correct in all respects—are simply not credible in the absence of objective reporting from the scene. Even if this stance were completely justified, official spokespeople would increasingly be suspected of stonewalling. As it is, reporters scrambling to verify the reports too often find survivors with far different accounts, which nourish the suspicions.

As Walter Cronkite recently wrote, "It is not acceptable that reports on our mili-

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OPC Bulletin

ISSN-0738-7202
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Overseas Press Club
of America

40 West 45 Street, New York, NY 10036 USA • Phone: (212) 626-9220 • Fax: (212) 626-9210 • Website: opcofamerica.org

The Saudi Peace Effort: It's News That's Fit to Print

by Lee Townsend

Call it the Op-Ed Mideast Initiative—the bold assurance by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah that his country was prepared to normalize relations with Israel if it were to sign a peace accord with the Palestinians.

The surprising promise was first reported February 17 by Correspondent Thomas L. Friedman on the Op-Ed page of *The New York Times*. Four days later Henry Siegman, Senior Fellow and Director of the US Middle East Project of the Council on Foreign Relations, provided more information on the Prince's promise—also in a column on the *Times* Op-Ed page.

Siegman, who has followed the Israeli-Palestinian conflict for more than four decades, shared his thoughts on Prince Abdullah's current peace proposals in an address sponsored by the OPC and the Foreign Policy Association March 20 at the HSBC Bank, Fifth Avenue and 40th Street.

Siegman told the 135 guests that Saudi Arabia was viewed by experts as an unlikely Arab country to launch a

peace effort “after all these years on the sideline cheering on the Arab side.” And if you asked who in the Saudi leadership would propose the initiative the Crown Prince would be at “the very bottom of the list” being the “most traditional type...the least worldly.” But the Crown Prince felt “most self-assured, most confident to take on what in the Saudi context is a very serious risk.”

Siegman said the development is comparable to the Sadat initiative when he began “a process that would end the state of war between Egypt and Israel.”

The Friedman column reported Israel must return to its pre-1967 borders and that all of East Jerusalem would serve as the capital of the new Palestinian state.

Siegman said he checked with his sources on the Crown Prince's staff and that they—and the Prince himself—said that those changes don't preclude “an exchange of territory on both sides of the pre-1967 border...as long as those changes are fair, are equitable.” And it would be possible to have “Jewish sov-

eighty over neighborhoods in East Jerusalem that are presently Jewish neighborhoods.”

On Vice President Dick Cheney's recent trip to the Middle East, Siegman said Cheney fully expected “that he could convince his hosts to focus on Iraq...and to insulate that discussion of Iraq from other considerations...The one thing I believe he has learned is that there's ‘no way, Jose,’ that just does not work.”

Siegman stressed that the Saudi proposal is not a specific peace plan. “The tough, difficult negotiations...will have to be carried out by the parties themselves.”

In answer to a question from the audience, Siegman said he thought the Saudi Crown Prince made his bold proposal to repair Saudi relations with the United States and also because he felt genuine pain about Palestinian suffering. He said this is an issue that was a political problem adding, “God forbid” we let religion dictate developments. We will “all be consumed by its fires.”

MEMO TO RUMSFELD

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tary's performance should be limited to the military's version. And it is insulting to the courage of individual correspondents and to the memory of those who have died in combat situations that the military should continue to insist that it is trying to protect from harm those who will take any risk to give people the truth.”

If the administration wants to achieve credibility in the current crisis and avoid the mistakes of Vietnam, its actions must be validated by the independent reporting of a free press. This is not George W. Bush's war, or Donald Rumsfeld's either. Like it or not, it is our war. We are all responsible for what these people are doing, and within the bounds of legitimate security, they owe us an honest accounting. The Bush Administration's media muzzlers must find a way to open the war to independent coverage. This is a war of ideas as well as action. If both these battlefields are not open to real scrutiny, the long-term war can't and won't be won.

OPC 63rd Awards Dinner: Marking a Momentous Year

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proceeding, but at a slower pace. Four judges in New York are also looking over all the entries.

After much debate it was decided that the OPC would expand its parameters of “international news” to include the events of September 11th. Even though the terrorist attacks were on American soil they were of an international nature, eventually leading to a war in Afghanistan. Nine of the nineteen awards deal with the terrorist attack on America and its aftermath. It was further decided to give a special photography award for the historic photography of 9/11.

Tickets for this prestigious dinner are \$150 for OPC members. Non-member tickets are \$300. Tables for organizations are priced at: \$10,000 (Patron), \$6,000



Aaron Brown

(Sponsor) and \$4,000 (Friend). Reservations are, of course, essential.

OPC members Andrew Heyward, President of CBS News and Mike Wallace, Correspondent and Co-Editor of 60 Minutes, are Co-Chairs of the Dinner Committee. They have assembled a fine group of names in a broad spectrum of the journalism communi-

ty: Walter Anderson, Louis D. Boccardi, Tom Brokaw, Roger Cohen, Ann Cooper, Horst Faas, Tom Glocer, Don Hewitt, Rik Kirkland, John R. MacArthur, Norman Pearlstine, Dan Rather, David Remnick, David A. Schlesinger, Neal Shapiro, Stephen Shepard, Richard M. Smith, Lesley Stahl, Paul E. Steiger, Sir Howard Stringer, Seymour Topping, David Turnley, Matthew Winkler, Fareed Zakaria.

A Review: 'News About the News'

As everybody in the business knows, journalism has been in a bad patch for the past ten years or so. Comes now a pair of veteran *Washington Post* journalists to tell us that it was even worse than we thought, and to suggest how things might get better.

Not that the book "The News About the News: American Journalism in Peril" is uniformly gloomy. Leonard Downie Jr., the *Post*'s executive editor, and Robert G. Kaiser, its senior correspondent, argue that the best of today's journalism is better than ever, and that there's no reason why the average standard can't be raised. But they show convincingly that the best is all too scarce, while the general level has been sinking steadily for a generation. Americans are being badly served by their news media, the authors warn, and all of us who practice the craft can only hope their cry for reform will be heard.

Their reporting is meticulous and exhaustive. Downie and Kaiser document all the woes of the news business: the melding of fact and opinion; the scanting of serious news; the rise of infotainment, celebrity journalism and journalists as celebrities; the holes in the wall between editorial and advertising; sheer speculation and "talking-head" analysis; trivialization, melodrama, violence and sleaze.

The blame for all this falls mainly on greedy, short-sighted owners. Eager to reverse the inexorable slide of ratings and lure younger viewers, the TV networks' corporate owners chop their staffs, close foreign bureaus and raise the quotient of sex, violence, crime and court news. Local stations and cable networks take the trend even farther, with happy-talk, pretty-face anchors and tiny staffs of "reporters" whose main duty is posing at crime scenes in "live" standups. Once-lively newspapers wither as they are sold off to chains and then pressured to raise profit margins even during recession. Staffs are pared down, the news hole is cut to save newsprint, and the cuts are never restored.

The irony of all this, Downie and Kaiser argue, is that it's unnecessary. Good journalism, represented by a handful of newspapers including the *Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Los Angeles Times*, is always long-term profitable. What's worse, sleaze is self-destructive: The papers and broadcast companies that cut staff and go

down-market to fatten the next quarter's profit almost always lose readers and viewers in the process. Even as seen by a Wall Street analyst, the authors say, such owners are "eating their seed corn," and will almost surely fail in the long run.

It's not too late to reform, they argue. The terrorist attack last Sept. 11 inspired "some of the best, and most helpful, journalism Americans had seen in a long time." And in its wake, there has been a perceptible rise of interest in serious news, among media tycoons and the general public as well. That may not last, but at least the media have shown they can still rise to such an occasion.

There are quibbles. Both Downie and Kaiser have worked only for the *Post* in their 35-plus-year careers, and they tend to be a bit righteous about newspapers as the fount of all good journalism. Their analysis of Internet journalism, still in its infancy, is necessarily sketchy and tenta-

tive. And they say far too little about the role of magazine journalism, both in solid reporting and in leading the trend from deadpan writing to inflected, in-depth analysis.

They're also downright priggish about what genuine news actually is. Downie and Kaiser seem to imply that anything that isn't politics, government, high finance or diplomacy isn't worth covering. They praise a few TV stations for superior public-interest news coverage, for instance, but good isn't enough: They wag their fingers at the same stations for mixing "rapes and drive-by shootings, bear wrestling and dolphin slaughters along with good local stories about schools, the environment, highways and the homeless." The right diet, it seems, is all broccoli and cod liver oil.

This attitude denies the inescapable raffishness that has always been part of

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Celebrating 300 Years of Fleet Street

by Sonya K. Fry

The London Press Club organized a very special event in honor of the 300th Anniversary of Fleet Street to commemorate the publishing of the first daily newspaper, *The Daily Courant* on March 11, 1702. Dennis Griffiths, Chairman of the Board of Directors, invited the OPC to be their honored guest at the celebration. And a fine celebration it was! Held in St. Bride's church on March 11th it was a grand assemblage of the "top brass" in journalism including Rupert Murdoch and Peter Stothard of *The Times*. The choir of only eight voices was superb, the Christopher Wren church was a feast for the eyes beautifully restored after the war-time bombing and the Lord Bishop of London presided. (If you think that Charlton Heston is God, you might change your



Sonya and Rebecca Fry with Prince Charles.

mind after hearing the voice and witnessing the presence of the Bishop). As if that were not enough, Charles, the Prince of Wales, was the keynote speaker. He thanked the press for continuing to honor the privacy of his two sons, William and Harry, who he said needed time to grow up in light of the tragedy of their lives (referring to the death of their mother, Diana). He chided the press for not respecting the institutions that are the bulwark of any society. He said that he

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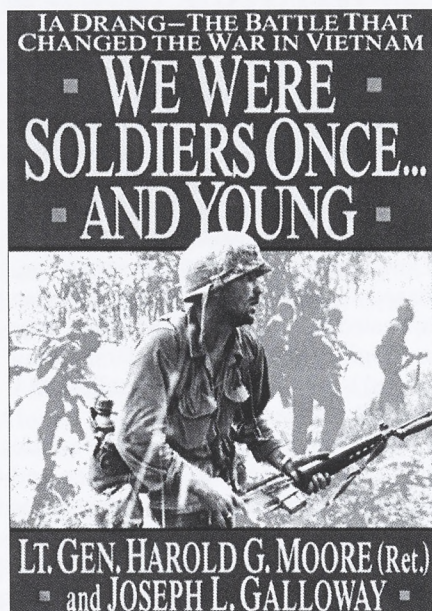
Our Man Behind "We Were Soldiers"

by Al Kaff

While working on UPI's Tokyo news desk 1966-1968, OPC member Joe Galloway tried to write a novel about the Viet Nam War battle fought in Ia Drang Valley. "I wrote a few chapters, but friends told me if I ever finished the book it would never sell because no one wanted to read about the Viet Nam War," Galloway told the *Bulletin* from his home in Falls Church, Virginia.

Joe never finished the novel. But in 1982, he and Harold (Hal) Moore, who commanded a U.S. Calvary battalion in the 1965 Ia Drang fighting, set out to write a nonfiction account of the battle fought between 450 U.S. GIs and 2,000 North Vietnamese soldiers, America's first major Vietnam War engagement. Communist troops swarmed out of tunnels and surrounded the Americans until the GIs broke through after four days and nights of fighting, sometimes hand-to-hand.

Galloway and Moore spent nine years interviewing survivors, their families, U.S. government officials, senior North Vietnamese generals and researching records, and then six months writing "We Were Soldiers Once...And Young" [Random House, 1992]. The book expanded on Galloway's award-winning cover story in *U.S. News & World Report*, where Joe was a senior writer after leaving UPI. The hardcover book hit the best seller lists and remained in print for the next 10 years. Last year the paperback edition became a bestseller. By March, it had been on *The New York*



Rick Rescorla is the soldier pictured on the front of this book jacket.



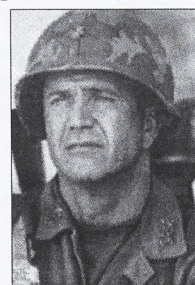
Harold Moore



Joe Galloway

Times paperback list for 18 weeks, ranking first while the movie version, Paramount's "We Were Soldiers," played at theaters throughout the United States. The film grossed \$20.2 million nationwide, No. 1 at box offices, in its first weekend screening. Galloway said "the movie was as true to the battle as Hollywood can make it."

Portrayed in the film by Barry Pepper, Galloway was the only reporter on the ground during most of the November 1965 battle, the month he turned 24. Joe aced out other correspondents by flying into the combat zone aboard a resupply helicopter, leaving behind his opposition, including Peter Arnett, then an AP correspondent and now an OPC board member. "It was a big story, and UPI got logs like 35-0



Mel Gibson

against the opposition," Galloway said, referring to UPI's daily report on how many of its dispatches on a particular event were published in selected newspapers compared with AP. Colonel Moore, now 80, played in the movie by Mel Gibson, and Galloway, now 60, hit it off from the start. "He respected me as a soldier," said Joe, who fired off a few rounds during the battle and whose relatives have fought in every U.S. war beginning with the Revolution.

For three weeks this February, Galloway and Moore traveled widely to promote the film. They were interviewed by Wolf Blitzer on CNN, Dan Rather on CBS' "60 Minutes II" and were among the movie's principals invited to the White House for dinner and a screening for President Bush, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, national security adviser Condoleezza Rice, White House consultant Karl Rove and top military brass.

After 37 years, Ia Drang soldiers continue to touch Joe's life. Rick Rescorla, the 2nd lieutenant pictured on the jacket of Galloway's book, later became vice president for group security at Morgan Stanley in New York's World Trade Center. On Sept. 11, Rescorla helped guide all but six of Morgan Stanley's 2,400 employees safely out of Tower 2 but was killed when the tower collapsed. Joe's first wife, Theresa Null, died in 1996. In 1998, he married Karen Metsker McCray, whose father, Capt. Tom Metsker, was killed at Ia Drang, a combat death portrayed in the film. Karen was 17 months old when her father was killed, and Joe interviewed her for his book 25 years later before they married.

In 1959 when he was 17 and straight out of high school, Galloway became a reporter for *The Advocate* in Victoria, Texas, joined UPI as Topeka bureau manager two years later and struck up a long friendship with Alfred M. Landon, who was Kansas governor and a Republican presidential candidate before Joe was born. Galloway never attended college, but he has lectured to cadets at West Point, most recently on relations between the military and the media. Now a speech writer for Secretary of State Colin Powell, Joe said he never dreamed he would become a bestselling author and inspiration for a Hollywood movie when he was growing up in Refugio, a south Texas town of some 4,500 population.

NEW BOOKS

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the Mountains of the Damned: The War Inside Kosovo" [New York University Press]. McAllester describes how a Serbian mobster destroys a family of Kosovar Albanians after they had been neighbors for years. McAllester, who shared a 1997 Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the crash of TWA Flight 800, reported from the recent trouble in Afghanistan. In an interview with his publisher, he commented on the religious and ethnic conflicts: "There's a primitive level of violence and killing in these wars that seems completely medieval to someone coming from what was, until recently, the apparently safe and calm Western world."



PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

ARLINGTON, Virginia: Newseum closed in March for four years while a \$300 million complex is built in Washington, D.C., across from the National Gallery of Art to house the media museum and facilities of its owner, Freedom Forum. More than 2.2 million people have visited Newseum since it opened in 1997.

ARUSHA, Tanzania: Three former Rwanda news executives are on trial before the United Nations war crimes tribunal for Rwanda, charged with genocide and incitement to genocide through their use of radio broadcasts and newspapers. The accused are **Ferdinand Nahimana** and **Jean-Bosco Barayagwiza**, who prosecutors say founded and controlled Radio Mille Collines, and **Hassan Ngeze**,



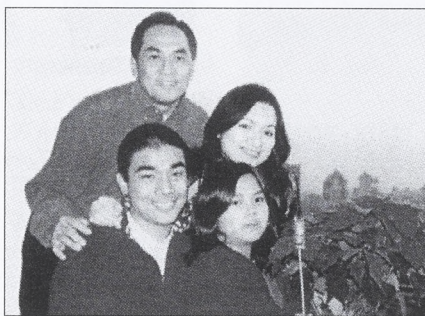
Jean-Bosco Barayagwiza

former publisher and editor of the pictorial newspaper *Kangura*. Prosecutors charge the men used their media outlets to spread ethnic hatred and persuade people to kill their enemies, the Tutsi and moderate Hutu. **Marlise Simons** of *The New York Times* reported: "Their trial is also examining the full scope of the role played by the news media in the massacre of more than 800,000 people in Rwanda in 1994." Senior prosecutor Stephen Rapp, an American lawyer, said, "A key question will be what kind of speech is protected and where the limits lie." John Floyd, an American lawyer defending Ngeze, said the defendants, locked up for five years, never should have been charged: "What's really on trial here is freedom of the press and intellectual freedom." Delayed by several changes in prosecutors and other problems, the trial has been going on since October 2000.

BANGKOK: The Thai government ordered two foreign correspondents expelled in February but in March lifted the expulsion order, the first by Thailand against a foreign journalist since the 1970s, when the country was ruled by a

military dictatorship. Ordered to leave the country were American **Shawn Crispin**, 33, bureau chief for *The Asian Wall Street Journal* and the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, and Briton **Rodney Tasker**, 56, correspondent for the two Dow Jones-owned publications that are based in Hong Kong. The magazine appealed the expulsion order and later apologized for any misunderstanding caused by a *Review* article, headlined "A Right Royal Headache."

A police statement said the article posed "a possible threat to peace and morality of the people" and "may cause confusion and disorder in society." The article reported alleged frictions between Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the constitutional monarch. That issue was barred from distribution in Thailand or aboard the national airline, Thai Airways. The government also blocked distribution of an issue of *The Economist* "because of an article that discussed the royal family in terms that are not acceptable in the country," **Seth Mydans** of *The New York Times* reported.



The Jaime FlorCruz family

BEIJING: After reporting from China for *Time* magazine for nearly 20 years followed by a year as an Edward R. Murrow Press Fellow at the Council of Foreign Relations in New York, OPC member **Jaime FlorCruz** abandoned print journalism with some trepidation last year to become CNN's Beijing bureau chief (September 2001 *Bulletin*). His media shift worked. In a February note to "People," Jaime reported: "I remain thrilled and challenged covering China for cable TV. Best wishes to you and all my friends in OPC in the Year of the Horse!" FlorCruz worked for *Time* while living in China as a self-imposed

exile from his native Philippines, fearful to return home because the Philippine government in those years prohibited its citizens from traveling to China. He married in China, and he and his wife, Ana, have two children, Johai and Michelle.

GARDEZ, Afghanistan: **Kathleen Kenna**, 47, South Asia bureau chief for *The Toronto Star*, suffered wounds March 4 when a grenade was thrown at her car while returning from a battle where U.S. troops were fighting Taliban and Al Qaeda forces. "The blast tore her right thigh and buttock to shreds," reported *Newsweek's* **Scott Johnson**, who was riding in a car ahead of hers. "The Americans took Kenna in and then flew her to Baghram air base near Kabul, probably saving her life." In the car with Kenna were her husband, **Hadi Dadashian**; *Star* photographer **Bernie Weil**; and an Afghan driver. None of them were seriously injured. Seven U.S. servicemen were killed in the battle.

HARARE: Two days after he won another presidential term in a disputed election, Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe on March 15 signed into law a Parliamentary bill that requires local journalists to be licensed by a state commission and restricts the work of foreign correspondents. His election was criticized by Western governments and some international organizations on grounds police and army intimidated voters and polls were closed before some voters could cast ballots.

Basildon Peta, 30, secretary-general of the Zimbabwe Union of Journalists, resigned as an editor at the independent *Financial Gazette* and fled to South Africa in February the week after he was arrested for leading a demonstration against Zimbabwe's new restrictive press law. Prosecutors decided not to charge Peta, but he said he feared for his safety after attacks against him in state-controlled media.



Basildon Peta

ISTANBUL: OPC member **Hugh Pope**, 41, *The Wall Street Journal's* Middle East correspondent, and **Jessica Lutz**, 38, of the Netherlands Press Association, were married Dec. 4 in Cape



Jessica Lutz and Hugh Pope

Town, South Africa. They continue to be based in Istanbul.

JERUSALEM: In March on her first day as a correspondent in Jerusalem, **Kimberly Dozier** reported her camera equipment was grabbed at by "a guy [who] came up from the edge of the crowd" and hurled an object at her head. "It left me feeling a little dizzy and there's some mild bruising," she said. Dozier opened the Jerusalem bureau for New York City's WCBS Channel 2, one of America's first local TV stations to establish an overseas bureau (March *Bulletin*). Before moving to Israel, Dozier reported from Afghanistan and Pakistan.

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia's government banned the Feb. 11 issue of *Newsweek* because it showed images of Muhammad, a violation of Islamic rules. Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi said: "Normally, if publications include photographs said to be that of Prophet Muhammad or such figures, the law of the country would have been violated. As such, we will not allow the edition to be circulated." Islamic paintings that included images of Muhammad and four Biblical paintings illustrated the magazine's cover story, "The Bible and the Qur'an" by **Kenneth L. Woodward**, a *Newsweek* senior writer. Bangladesh confiscated the issue, and Islamic authorities in Indonesia urged that government to ban the issue.

LONDON: **Robert Thomson**, managing editor of the U.S. edition of *Financial Times*, became editor of the London *Times* in March. He succeeded **Peter Stothard**, who had announced that he was stepping down after 10 years as editor. **Lionel Barber**, now editor of the *Financial Times'* continental European edition, is scheduled to move to New York in May to succeed Thomson. Both Thomson, 40, and **Rupert Murdoch**, owner of the *Times* who turned 71 in

March, were born in Australia. In a London dispatch, **Charles Goldsmith** of *The Wall Street Journal* reported: "The hiring of a non-British journalist to be the 24th editor of the *Times*, a venerable institution that dates back to 1785, is raising eyebrows in media circles." Thomson worked for the Melbourne, Australia, *Herald* and *The Sydney Morning Herald* before joining *The Financial Times*, where he reported from Beijing and Tokyo and later in London was foreign news editor, week-end editor and assistant editor.

MAGDALENA, Colombia: **Alvaro Alonso Escobar**, owner of *Region*, a weekly newspaper, was killed in his home Dec. 23, shot three times in the head by an assailant who escaped on a motorcycle. He was the second *Region* journalist to be murdered. The paper is published in an area where guerrilla and paramilitary groups are active. The Inter American Press Association quoted Magdalena Police Chief Luis Mesa as saying Escobar was slain "for personal reasons." **Rafael Molina**, chairman of the Association's committee on freedom of the press and information, responded: "We are not interested in premature ideas about the motive for the crime, but that a full and thorough investigation be carried out."

MEXICO CITY: The Inter American Press Association complained to the Mexican government after death threats were sent by e-mail to **Jesús Blancornelas**, who has crusaded against drug traffickers. He is editor of *Zeta*, a Tijuana weekly newspaper. The Association called on the government "to prevent those who resort to violence from continuing to imposing a culture of impunity." In a 1997 attack, gunmen hired by a drug cartel ambushed Blancornelas' vehicle, wounding the editor and killing his bodyguard with automatic rifle fire (January 1998 *Bulletin*). The co-editor of his magazine, **Héctor Félix Miranda**, was murdered in 1988.

MIAMI, Florida: Cuban journalist **Humberto Castelló** is the new executive editor of *El Nuevo Herald*, a Spanish-language newspaper published in Miami for Hispanic readers. He succeeded **Carlos Castañeda**, editor the past three years.

MOSCOW: **Alexei Venediktov**, editor-in-chief of Ekho Moskvyy, Russia's first radio station to broadcast without

state control, resigned in February after GazpromMedia, part of the state-controlled natural gas monopoly, took over 51 percent of the station's shares. "I am not going to work for a radio station that belongs to the state," Venediktov, 46, said. "I prefer to keep my reputation but not my job." In a Moscow dispatch, **Sharon LaFraniere** of *The Washington Post News Service*, wrote: "Ekho Moskvyy built a reputation for breaking news, hard-hitting analysis and interviews with key political figures, including visiting presidents. It broadcasts in 70 cities, reaching an audience of between 4 million and 6 million."

NEW YORK: Onward and upward for winners of OPC Foundation Scholarships! With the \$2,000 Alexander Kendrick Scholarship money she received in January, **Misha Schubert** reports that she now can pay the last of her tuition at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. Misha wrote to **Victor Kendrick**, who established the scholarship honoring his brother: "I hope to become a foreign correspondent, ideally in a major Asian city, for an English-language newspaper." She graduates in May. The late **Alexander Kendrick** was a CBS News correspondent in Europe. **Vic Kendrick**, now retired in New Jersey, was a United Press correspondent in Shanghai, Hong Kong and Tokyo, and covered the Korean War.

Suchita Nayar, who won the Irene Corbally Kuhn Scholarship in 1998, has worked on both sides of the globe since finishing at Columbia University. She wrote OPC Executive Director **Sonya K. Fry**: "Right out of school, I went to Reuters equities desk in New York, worked as a reporter on spot news and banking, stayed there for about 19 months, joined Bloomberg News in Sydney in July 2000 and quit in March 2001, when we decided to move back. In January 2002 joined *Hedge Fund Alert*, a weekly trade newsletter. I'm trying to build my experience as a business reporter specializing in financial services."

◆
OPC board member **Roger Cohen** became *The New York Times* foreign editor March 14, succeeding **Andrew Rosenthal**, also an OPC member, who was promoted to assistant managing editor last September. Cohen, 46, was acting foreign editor after returning last

(Continued on Page 8)

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 7)

summer from Berlin, where he was *Times* bureau chief following postings to Paris and the Balkans. He joined *The Times* in 1990 after working as a foreign correspondent for *The Wall Street Journal* and Reuters.

R. W. (Johnny) Apple Jr., who has reported from Asia, Africa, Middle East and Europe for *The New York Times*, is the newspaper's new associate editor,



R.W. Apple Jr.

promoted from chief correspondent in February. Based in Washington, Apple, 67, will travel to write about the arts, culture, food, wine, and foreign and domestic affairs. Executive editor

Howell Raines explained the associate editor's post as one held by a distinguished journalist but outside the chain of command: "The title connotes a senior status of a special sort, as a writer, editor and a kind of resident

sage on journalism." After working for *The Wall Street Journal* and NBC News, Apple joined *The Times* in 1963. He covered the Vietnam War, revolutions in Nigeria and Iran, the fall of Communist governments in Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Hungary, and the Persian Gulf War. He has been based in Washington since 1970 as *The Times* national political correspondent, chief correspondent and bureau manager until 1997, when he became a roving correspondent.

Arthur Ochs Sulzberger is retiring from the board of The New York Times Company while remaining chairman emeritus. Sulzberger, 76, an OPC member, started at *The Times* in 1951 as a reporter and was its publisher, 1963-1992. His daughter, **Cathy J. Sulzberger**, partner in a real estate development company, has been nominated for election to the board. His son, **Arthur Ochs Sulzberger Jr.**, now is publisher.

Bill Powell, *Fortune* magazine's Asia editor, has returned to New York from Beijing and now is the magazine's

chief international correspondent. "I'll be doing a lot of traveling covering stuff related to 9/11," Powell told "People." Before joining *Fortune* in 2000, Powell was a *Newsweek* correspondent in Tokyo, Berlin and Moscow. He won 1990 and 1995 OPC awards for economic reporting.

Adi Ignatius is another recent arrival in New York. He now is a *Time* executive editor after working in Hong Kong, where he was editor of *Time's* Asia edition. His wife, **Dorinda Elliott**, will return to New York from Hong Kong for a *Time* assignment after their children finish school this summer. She was editor of *Asiaweek*, a news magazine published in Hong Kong that was closed by its owners, AOL Time Warner, last November, citing a collapse in advertising (January *Bulletin*). Before joining *Asiaweek* in 2000, Dorinda was *Newsweek's* Asia editor and earlier worked for *Business Week* in New York.

Bonnie Fuller, who made her first marks at *The Toronto Star* and *Flare* magazine in Canada, became editor-in-chief of *Us Weekly*, a magazine published by Wenner Media, in March. She came to the United States in 1989 and since then has edited several magazines including *YM*, *Marie Claire*, *Cosmopolitan* and *Glamour*. In her new post, Fuller competes against a bigger magazine and another woman, **Martha Nelson**, who was appointed managing editor of *People*, owned by Time Inc., in February. Both magazines cover celebrities. *People's* circulation is 3.7 million, *Us Weekly's* 929,000



Bonnie Fuller

FLEET STREET

(Continued from Page 4)

understood that corruption and flaws in the system should be reported and ferreted out, but that it was unwise to continue down the path of destruction of all social institutions, among them the civil service and the monarchy.

After Charles spoke the choir sang a magnificent version of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus," followed by everyone in the church singing "God Save the Queen." Curiously, however, we also sang a rousing version of the Battle Hymn of the Republic from the American Civil War. The Brits do ceremony so well. In addition to the magnificent music, the choir and guild members had lovely rust colored robes that matched the woodwork and to think that all this was in honor of journalists. It is hard to imagine a church in the US being a spiritual home for the press.

Much to my surprise Prince Charles attended the reception at St. Bride's Institute and much to my delight Dennis Griffiths was a gracious host and introduced my daughter, Rebecca, and me to HRH and "we had a chat." Since even my own mother could not believe

that we met royalty I gave you photographic proof that it is indeed true.

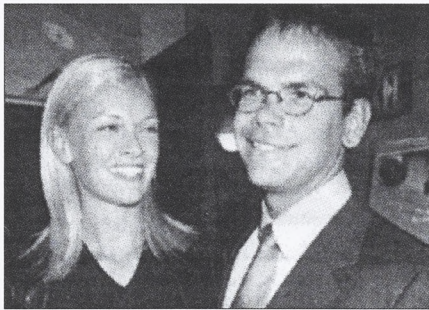
Also at the reception was OPC member Horst Faas, senior photo editor at AP; John Owen, former Director of the European Centre of the Freedom Forum (the Freedom Forum closed down their worldwide network of press centers this past year); and Robert Thomson, former managing editor of the US edition of the *Financial Times*, who had recently been transferred to London to become editor of the *London Times*, (replacing Peter Stothard who is stepping down).

It was indeed a grand occasion and I felt greatly honored to represent the OPC at this historic event. It was also with great pride that I found the plaque the Overseas Press Club had dedicated after World War II.



OPC plaque in St. Bride's Church.

For the past two years, **Lachlan Murdoch**, eldest son of **Rupert Murdoch**, has been running the family-owned Australian newspapers, *New York Post* and book publisher HarperCollins. This winter, he added Fox Television stations to his portfolio. Media speculation says Lachlan, 30, now deputy chief operating officer of his father's News Corporation, may some day succeed his 71-year-old father as chairman and chief executive. But after interviewing both Rupert and Lachlan in March, **Seth**



Sarah O'Hare and Lachlan Murdoch

Schiesel wrote in *The New York Times*: "Rupert Murdoch says that he hopes to run the company until he dies." Lachlan and his wife, former model Sarah O'Hare, live in New York City.

Margarett Loke of *The New York Times* called it "one of the most arresting images ever made by a war photographer." She was writing about "Another Vietnam: Pictures from the Other Side," an exhibit of photos made by North Vietnamese photographers during the Vietnam War. The picture Loke praised showed a wounded soldier being carried on a stretcher toward gowned and masked nurses and a surgeon, all standing in knee-deep water near the operating room, a mosquito-netting tent.

The 1970 scene in a Viet Cong camp in a mangrove swamp in the Mekong Delta was photographed by **Vo Anh Khanh**. After the war, OPC member **Tim Page** published a book of black-and-white North Vietnamese war photos (February *Bulletin*), and more than 100 of them were exhibited at the International Center of Photography in February and March in collaboration with the National Geographic Society. During more than 20 trips to Vietnam, American news photographer



Medics in a swamp

Doug Niven, the exhibit's curator, located 30 surviving North Vietnamese war photographers.

Frank Sakdalan, former UPI correspondent in Asia, knew what to do after he shouldered a mortgage in purchasing an apartment just before the Sept. 11 terrorism, escaped injury while crossing North Bridge at the World Trade Center when the first plane slammed into North Tower and then lost his BridgeNews job (February *Bulletin*). "I'm currently taking lessons in computer skills at the Katharine Gibbs school of continuing education in Manhattan to improve my chances of landing a job in today's labor market," Sakdalan, 62, told "People."

OPC member **Katharine Graham**, former chairman of The Washington Post Company who died last year, was inducted into the Advertising Hall of Fame in March. The American Advertising Federation honors people "who have raised the standard of excellence in advertising."



Katharine Graham



Phillip Bruno and Clare Henry

Clare Henry, 59, who reports on art from New York for London's *Financial Times*, and **Phillip A. Bruno**, 71, director of New York City's Marlborough Gallery, were married March 2 by a Lutheran minister at New York's St. Peter's Church. Before joining *The Financial Times*, Henry was art critic for *The British Herald* in Glasgow, Scotland.

RAMALLAH, West Bank: **A. Raffaele Ciriello**, a freelance Italian news photographer, was killed March 13, shot six times in the abdomen and chest while covering the Israeli Army incursion into Ramallah. Witnesses suspected an Israeli soldier mistook Ciriello for a

Palestinian. Ciriello and **Noberto Sanna**, a TV cameraman for Italy's state-run RAI network, were walking toward the town square where armed Palestinian men were milling around. The journalists spotted an Israeli tank, Ciriello took a picture and "then he took one step forward, and suddenly there was burst of machine-gun fire, and I saw Raffaele fall to the ground," Sanna told **Joel Brinkley** of *The New York Times*.

In a statement, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres expressed "profound regret" over the death. Ciriello, 42, was the first foreign journalist killed during the 17-month Israeli-Palestinian trouble. He was not wearing a flak jacket. In another Ramallah incident the same day, **Tarek Ab-Deljaber**, an Egyptian TV reporter, was shot in the waist but said he was saved by his flak jacket. Ciriello was on assignment for *Corriere della Sera*, the same Italian newspaper that lost **Maria Grazia Cutuli** when she was killed in Afghanistan last November (December *Bulletin*).

TEHERAN: Former journalist **Siamak Pourzand**, 73, who was arrested last November, went on trial in March on charges of espionage and threatening national security, the state-run newspaper *Iran* reported. Noting that the trial started just before Iranian President Mohammad Khatami's trip to Austria and Greece, *The New York Times* said: "During his [Khatami's] past visits to European countries, hard-liners have arrested reformers back home in order to embarrass him." The daily *Iran* said Pourzand admitted nine charges. Mehrangiz Kar, Pourzand's wife, told *The Times* from Washington, where she is undergoing cancer treatment, her husband's confession was baseless because his statements "have been extracted under duress."

TOKYO: Contrary to a February *Bulletin* report, UPI has not vanished in Japan. The national news agency Kyodo has renewed its contract with UPI, reports **Ted Shimizu**, who joined United Press as a copy boy shortly after World War II, advanced to Japan news editor and then worked as a Kyodo editor until retiring.

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WASHINGTON: About 50 of the 87 correspondents who accompanied President Nixon on his 1972 trip to China attended a one-day reunion in Washington in March. **Bill Ringle**, 79, who covered the historic mission for Gannett newspapers 30 years ago, organized the event. "I wanted to do this on the 25th anniversary but didn't get much reaction," Ringle, now retired in McLean, Virginia, told "People." "And I wanted to hold the reunion this year in China, but some of us couldn't afford the trip."

Henry Kissinger, who obtained China's approval for the Nixon trip and accompanied him to China, spoke at the reunion breakfast. **Ted Koppel**, who joined the Nixon press corps when he was based in Hong Kong, moderated an afternoon panel discussion. OPC founding member **Fay Gillis Wells**, 93, attended and told Ringle she made her first trip to China in 1934 to cover enthronement of Pu Yi, puppet emperor of Manchukuo. Other correspondents at the reunion included OPC members **Hugh Mulligan**, **Helen Thomas** and **John Rich**, who along with **John Roderick** scooped their opposition in 1971 by obtaining then rarely-issued visas to visit China. They were allowed into the Middle Kingdom to cover a U.S. table tennis team's trip to Beijing, the first visit to China by a non-Communist U.S. delegation since the 1949 revolution.

Others participating in the Nixon press corps reunion included **Hugh Sidey**, **Stanley Karnow**, **Bob Keatley**, **Jerry Schecter**, **Norman Kempster**, **Dirck Halstead**, **Lester Crystal**, **Av Westin** and **Bob Daugherty**. Retired Ambassador **Ma Yu-zhen**, who was information director at China's foreign ministry during the Nixon mission, and his wife flew from Beijing to Washington to attend the reunion. **Nancy Hartzenbusch**, widow of OPC member **Henry Hartzenbusch**, who grew up in China and covered the Nixon trip for AP, also attended.

IN MEMORY

Thomas Griffith, 86, a senior editor at *Time* during some of the major events of the 1950s and 1960s including the Korean War, died Nov. 16 in a New York City hospital. In a dispute over the magazine's coverage of President Truman's 1951 dismissal of General Douglas A. MacArthur, *Time* favored MacArthur, but Griffith said the maga-

zine should not take sides, resulting in his transfer to the less politically charged foreign news department. He spent 30 years at *Time*. Despite his liberal views, Griffith never lost the respect and friendship of **Henry**



JOHN DOMINIS

Thomas Griffith

Luce, the magazine's conservative founder, and became assistant managing editor of national coverage.

Thomas Winship, 81, *The Boston Globe* editor for 19 years and a founder of the International Center for Foreign Journalists, died in Boston March 14 after treatment for lymphoma. With New England newspaper owner and publisher **James D. Ewing**, who died Jan. 21 (*March Bulletin*), and George **Krimsky**, formerly with AP and a past OPC vice president, Winship founded the International Center in Washington in 1984 and served as chairman. The Center has trained more than 12,000 journalists from 173 countries.

During World War II, Winship was a



Thomas Winship

was Massachusetts Senator Leverett Saltonstall's press secretary before returning to *The Post* for six years, then joining *The Globe* as Washington correspondent. He returned to Boston in 1958 to be *The Globe's* metropolitan editor and finally editor from 1965-1984, succeeding his father, **Laurence Winship**.

Marion Dönhoff, 92, who was born into Prussian nobility, opposed Adolf Hitler while living in Germany and became a leading journalist after World War II, died of cancer March 11 in Germany. Keeping her title of countess throughout her life, she was co-publisher of Hamburg's *Die Zeit*. Her reports on the Nuremberg war crime trials attracted the attention of *Die Zeit's* editors, and she joined the liberal weekly's political staff in 1946, shortly after its publication was

approved by the British occupation authority. She was promoted to head the weekly's political department in 1955, named editor-in-chief in 1968 and four years later became co-publisher, a post she shared with former Chancellor **Helmut Schmidt** and others. **Wolfgang Saxon** wrote her obituary in *The New York Times*, calling *Die Zeit* a "highly influential intellectual newspaper."

After the Nazis came to power in 1933, Dönhoff studied in Switzerland, earning a doctorate in 1935, but returned to Germany in 1937 to help administer the family's estates. She sided with resistance to Nazi rule, was interrogated by



Marion Dönhoff

death. She wrote several books including "Before the Storm: Memories of my Youth in Old Prussia" [New York: Knopf, 1990].

Shelley Mydans, 86, who covered World War II in Asia and was a Japanese POW for 21 months, died March 7 in New Rochelle, N.Y. Shelley and her husband, **Carl Mydans**, one of *Life* magazine's first photographers, were based in Manila in 1941 when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and the Philippines. They were taken prisoner and held nearly two years until released in a POW exchange.



CAMEL MILDAINS

Shelly Mydans

Shelley Smith and Carl Mydans, who survives, were married in 1938 when she was a *Life* researcher-reporter. In 1939, the magazine sent them to Europe, where they remained until the fall of France. They then transferred to Chongqing, China, to cover the Sino-Japanese war and then to the Western Pacific. When allied forces under General Douglas A. MacArthur recaptured the Philippines in 1945, Carl Mydans rode on a tank into the grounds of Manila's Santa Tomas University, liberating the university where he and his wife had been impris-

oned and where allied civilians were still being held.

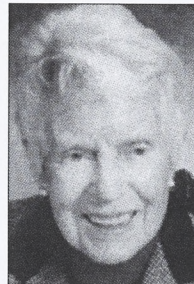
After the war, the Mydans returned to New York, and Shelley became a news commentator on Time Inc. radio and wrote for *Time* and *Life* until the couple was posted to Tokyo, where Carl became Time-Life bureau chief and covered the early days of the Korean War. Shelley wrote the novels "The Open City," based on experiences of Americans captured by the Japanese; "Thomas," a novel based on the life of Thomas á Becket, martyr and 12th Century Archbishop of Canterbury; and "The Vermillion Bridge," set in 8th Century Japan. She and her husband wrote "The Violent Peace," a report on war, insurgency and terrorism since World War II. Their son, **Seth Mydans**, is Southeast Asia correspondent for *The New York Times*.

◆
Hitoshi (Robert) Tanji, 77, for many years sales director and later business manager of UPI in Japan, died of lung cancer Feb. 26 at his home in Yokohama, Japan. Tanji retired in the late 1980s. During his 38 years with UPI, the wire service earned millions of dollars annually in Japan, selling its news and pictures to national news agencies Kyodo News and Jiji Press; the daily *Mainichi Shimbun* and *Pacific Stars & Stripes*; and Sun Telephoto, a national picture agency. One of Tanji's biggest deals was selling the publishing and merchandising rights of "Peanuts" in Japan. Translated into Japanese, the doings of Charlie Brown and friends became best-seller books in Japan. "Peanuts" was distributed by United Feature Syndicate that, like UPI, was owned by Scripps-Howard. Tanji was born in 1924 of Japanese parents on Kauai Island, Hawaii, where his father assisted Japanese settlers and his mother was principal of a Japanese school. Before World War II when Bob Tanji was about 12 years old, his parents returned to Japan with him.

◆
Margaret (Peggy) Durdin, 92, widow of **Tillman (Till) Durdin**, a longtime foreign correspondent for *The New York Times* and herself a foreign correspondent, died Feb. 12 in Encinitas, California. Peggy was born in China, where her parents were Presbyterian missionaries, and she spoke colloquial Chinese. After graduating from Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, Georgia, she returned to Shanghai's American School, where she had studied before college, as

head of its English department. She and Till were married in Shanghai in 1938.

While her husband covered World War II battles in Guadalcanal and New Guinea, Peggy worked for the American Red Cross in Australia and New Zealand and was a political adviser to Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, 1943-1945. After the war she was a *Time* magazine correspondent in New Delhi; reported from Afghanistan, Burma, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Japan, Laos, Pakistan, Thailand and Tonga; and contributed freelance articles to *The New York Times Magazine*, *Life*, *Look*, *Reader's Digest*, *The Saturday Evening Post* and *The Saturday Review*. Peggy's husband died in 1998.



Peggy Durdin

Her *Times* obituary reported: "**Seymour Topping**, a former Southeast Asia correspondent of *The Times*, said Ms. Durdin with her language skills and experience was a mentor to younger journalists like him and **Theodore White**." An OPC member, Topping also was *The Times* foreign editor and managing editor and now administers the Pulitzer Prizes.

◆
Sidney White, 77, who covered the Korean War for International News Service and worked for other news orga-

nizations until retiring in 1990, died of diabetes and Parkinson disease last Nov. 1 in New York City. In the late 1940s, Sid was Tokyo bureau chief for *Pacific Stars & Stripes* while in the U.S. Navy. After discharge, he earned a master's degree in journalism and Asian studies at the University of Michigan, joined INS and later reported for Mutual Broadcasting, NBC News, *The New York Times* and Dow Jones.

In the mid-1950s in Sendai, Japan, Sid covered the military trial of an American woman charged with killing her U.S. warrant officer's husband. She was acquitted. Testimony dealt with sexual acts explicitly described from the witness stand. As Sid later told his colleagues, he was dictating a trial account to **Marvin Stone**, INS Tokyo chief, a report filled with complicated legal moves made by her two New York attorneys but lacking sex. Stone interrupted: "Forget the facts, just give me the story." Sid White is survived by **Mitsue**, his wife of 46 years.

◆
Oops! In the March *Bulletin*, the last two lines were dropped from the obituary of British journalist **John Grigg**, causing a point to be lost. The full last sentence: "Before his death, Grigg had completed three volumes of a planned five-volume biography of Lloyd George, British prime minister 1916-1922, for whom Grigg's journalist father, **Lord Altrincham**, had worked as a policy advisor."

NEWS ABOUT THE NEWS

(Continued from Page 4)

journalism. What we cover is the human condition, which is noble and sleazy, aspiring and bawdy, tragic and sad and funny. Good journalists relish it all. The recently beatified Ted Koppel devoted at least a dozen Nightline programs to the seamy excesses of the Gospelgate scandal of 1987. And back in the early '70s, the authors' boss, now *Washington Post* CEO Donald Graham, had already taken in that truth as he was working his way around the family empire to learn the business. Serving a hitch as a *Newsweek* writer, he did a memorable piece on streaking, that short-lived fad that had herds of college kids stripping to their sneakers and scampering across the nation's campuses. Graham's lead paragraph: "Whooooosh!"

Whether or not the authors prescribe it, a sense of humor might help ease the perils of journalism. But how else could matters improve?

It is conceivable, say Downie and Kaiser, that a new generation of public-spirited owners will arise in the tradition of the late Eugene Meyer, who bought *The Washington Post* in 1933 and lost money on the paper for most of the next 21 years. Or perhaps, they say, reform might come when all the nation's media and entertainment companies are owned by four or five huge conglomerates, which might then venture into good journalism to win public respect. Sure.

But the authors' best hope is clearly that financial fashions will change, as they often do, and owners will understand their long-term best interest. They will then see the chase for quarterly profits as destructive and self-defeating, and notice at last that good journalism makes money.

Of course, that won't be all that's needed. As Downie and Kaiser are the first to note, light features and happy talk are easy; good journalism is hard. But that's another book. —LARRY MARTZ

New Books

GLOBAL

• In "Home Lands: Portraits of the New Jewish Diaspora" [New York: Holt], **Larry Tye** of *The Boston Globe* describes Jewish life outside Zion. He examines Jewish communities in Buenos Aires, Atlanta, Boston, Dublin, Düsseldorf, Paris and Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine. Tye quotes Mark Shlyak, a Ukrainian Jew: "I like the Jewish state and think the return of Jews to their historical model is a big step and a great step. But the strength and influence of the Jewish people today is mainly explained by the fact that they live across the world and that they are influencing the way other countries believe and live. The task of helping the diaspora, of creating the conditions in the diaspora that will let communities like this flower again, is not any less important than Jews emigrating to Israel."



The sexton of an Orthodox synagogue in France.

ASIA

• OPC member **David Lamb**, a UPI and later *Los Angeles Times* correspondent in Vietnam during the war, returned

in 1997 and spent four years as the paper's Hanoi bureau manager. "What has happened to Vietnam since the guns fell silent?" Lamb wondered. "What would it be like to live in the former enemy capital?" He answers in "Vietnam Now: A Reporter Returns" [New York: PublicAffairs]. Lamb's publisher writes: "For four years he explored the 'new' Vietnam, wandering from the Chinese border to the depths of the Mekong Delta. He encountered many of the personalities from America's distant dark days—the legendary general, Vo Nguyen Giap; Hanoi Hannah, once the propaganda voice of North Vietnam; a trusted Vietnamese journalist for *Time* magazine who turned out to be a Viet Cong agent. But more importantly, he brings us into the lives of scores of uncelebrated Vietnamese—students, former soldiers, shopkeepers, Communist Party members and unabashed capitalists."

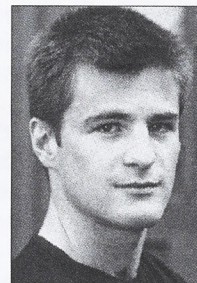
• Pakistani journalist **Ahmed Rashid's** book "Taliban" became an international best seller after Sept. 11. Now in "Jihad: The Rise of Militant Islam in Central Asia" [Yale University Press], he analyzes militant Islam in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan. The author introduces Central Asia's Osama bin Laden—Juma Namangani, whose Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan aims to bring its holy war to Central Asia. Reviewing the book in *The Washington Post*, **Peter Bergen**, author of "Holy War, Inc." (December *Bulletin*), reports that Rashid calls Central Asian governments incompetent with little to offer their people other than neo-Soviet policies and corruption. Rashid writes: "The real crisis in Central Asia lies with

the state, not the insurgents."

• At night **Shashi Tharoor**, an upper-class Indian, writes novels and political commentary for newspapers and magazines, and during the day he works in an executive position at the United Nations (April 2001 *Bulletin*). In "Riot" [New York: Arcade Publishing], Tharoor spins a romance involving a 24-year-old American woman who is a family-planning counselor in India and a married Indian government official. During their affair, religious violence breaks out, sparked by fundamentalist Hindus who want to destroy a Moslem mosque. In *The New York Times*, **Adam Goodheart**, editorial board member of *The American Scholar*, called the book "a tale of the fierce loves and fierce hatreds that both bind together modern India and periodically threaten to tear it apart." In a scolding tone, Goodheart writes, "'Riot' includes some execrably written sex scenes and that its characters, alas, copulate like rabbits, seemingly every few pages."

EUROPE

• Reporters were not allowed into Kosovo during the war, but **Matthew McAllester**, a *Newsday* correspondent, hiked through snowy mountain passes between Montenegro and Kosovo in 1999. **Matthew McAllester** and reached the town of Pec, one of Kosovo's most devastated cities. He writes of tragedy and brutality in "Beyond" (Continued on Page 5)



ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

Thursday, April 25

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Dinner at 7:00pm
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Mayor Bloomberg
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